

POL

27-9

BIAFRA-NIGERIA

7/3/69

Systematic declassification review of material in this folder
was completed by the Department of State on:

3/18/96 *RM*
(Date and Reviewer's Initials)

The remaining material was declassified as of that date.

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DECLASSIFIED
Authority: VND 959503
By: MNARA Date: 10/3/05



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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL 519

PAGE 01 GENEVA 02325 031754Z

47
ACTION SS 70

INFO OCT 01, CCO 00, SSO 00, NSCE 00, DODE 00, CIAE 00, USIE 00, 1071 W
0 031716Z JUL 69 ZFF-6 013465
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2027
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

GENEVA-2325
7-3 69

CONFIDENTIAL GENEVA 2325

LIMDIS

STATE FOR U/CF

1. JUST SAW FREY FOR A FEW MINUTES. BEFORE HE LEFT ON SHORT LEAVE. HE WAS GENERALLY OPTIMISTIC. HE WILL PROVIDE COMPLETE RUN DOWN HIS LAGOS IMPRESSIONS ON MONDAY. HE EXPRESSED DISGUST WEAK KNEED ATTITUDE VOLAGS AT LAGOS EXPECIALLY UN REP GEN KHAN "WHO LED CAVE-IN".

2. FREY (PROTECT) MENTIONED IN CONFIDENCE NAVILLE TRYING SET UP MEETING WITH GOWAN VIA BRITISH. HE BELIEVES THIS WILL BE ACCOMPLISHED IN MATTER DAYS. (WE UNDERSTAND SECY FOLEY STOPPED OVER LAST NIGHT IN GENEVA FOR 1-2 HOURS). PLANS CALL FOR NAVILLE ACCCOMPANIED BY FREY AND BORSINGER (WHO MAIN ICRC CONTACT WITH UK MISSION/ GENEVA) TO GO TO LAGOS AND THENCE SEE OJUKWU AND RETURN GENEVA VIA ABIDJAN.

3. CONCILIATORY TONE AMB. KOLO'S PRESS CONFERENCE, GENEVA 2310, WAS MUSIC TO ICRC'S EARS. HOWEVER, GENEVA

ATMOSPHERE ICRC HEADQUARTERS IS STILL ONE OF INDIGNATION MINGLED WITH CONFUSION. OFFICIALS ARE LOCKED IN ALL DAY CONFERENCES AND PARTICULARLY INACESSIBLE. TUBBY

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By MNARA Date 10/5/05

L I M D I S		
TOP SECRET	INCOMING	Screener <i>1021</i>
POST <u>GENEVA</u>	(Time Received)	
SERIAL <u>2325</u>	09 JUL 5 PM 2 30	
<u>DISTRIBUTION</u>		<u>MONTHLY COUNT</u> <i>072</i>
<u>Secretariat</u>	<u>Geographic</u>	<u>Other</u>
S/S-S <u>1</u>	AF <u>5</u> <i>✓ 5</i>	ACDA <u>5</u>
S/S-O <u>1</u>	ARA <u>9</u>	AID/EXSEC <u>3</u>
S/S-Screener <u>3</u>	EA <u>11</u>	AA/AFR <u>2</u>
S/S-EX	EUR <u>10</u>	AA/VN <u>2</u>
S/S-CMS	NEA <u>8</u>	AA/EA <u>3</u>
S/S-O DIR	<u>Functional</u>	
Mil.Rep	CU	AA/NESA <u>2</u>
Digest	E <u>2</u>	TRSY <u>6</u>
Task Force	H <u>1</u>	FRB
<u>Principals and</u> <u>"S" Area</u>	INR <u>6</u> <i>✓ 6</i>	EXIM
ES <u>✓</u>	IO <u>4</u> <i>✓ 4</i>	BOB
S <u>2</u>	L <u>2</u>	CEA
U <u>✓ 2</u>	O <u>3</u>	COM <u>2</u>
J	OPR	STR
D	OC	TAR
C	SY	WHRE
USC	WLG	AGR <u>3</u>
S/CPR	P <i>✓ 1</i>	LAB
S/FW	SCA	HEW
S/GOV	VO	INT
S/IL	SCS	TRANS
S/P <u>✓</u>	SCI	CAB
S/PM <u>1</u>	<u>Other</u>	
S/R <u>1</u>	WH <u>10</u> <i>P 10</i>	AEC <u>3</u>
U/CF <u>X 1</u>	VP	NASA
U/PW <u>X 1</u>	DOD <i>P</i>	JUS
J/PM	CIA <i>P</i>	FBI
J/WP	USIA <u>4</u> <i>P</i>	NIC
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Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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ACTION AF 18

INFO OCT 01, IO 13, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00,
NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, AID 28, UCF 05, UPW 01,
SCS 04, SCA 01, SR 01, ORM 03, RSR 01, 141 W

R 031142Z JUL 69
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2012
INFO USUN NEW YORK 3232

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GENEVA 2310

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN RELIEF

1. AMB SULE KOLO, FMG CHIEF MISSION GENEVA HELD PRESS CONFERENCE JULY 2 PM UPON HIS RETURN FROM LAGOS.

2. KILO'S OPENING STATEMENT AND ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS CONSISTED LARGELY OF RESTATEMENTS AND REFERRALS TO FMG STATEMENT OF JUNE 30 OF WHICH HE DISTRIBUTED NEATLY PRINTED VERSION. KILO'S PRESENTATION WAS MARKED BY GREAT EFFORT APPEAR CONCILIATORY VIS-A-VIS ICRC. HE REFERRED TO PREVIOUS UNDERSTANDING WITH ICRC/NAVILLE THAT ITS ROLE TO BE TAKEN OVER BY NIGERIANS. NO RPT NO INTENTION "KICK OUT" ICRC. DECISION AFFECTS IMMEDIATELY ONLY COORDINATING ROLE NOT RPT NOT OPERATIONS. PHASING OUT OF ICRC AND PHASING IN OF NIGERIANS TO BE DISCUSSED AROUND TABLE BY NRC, NCR, AND ICRC WITH OBJECTIVE ACHIEVE TAKE-OVER ASAP. ICRC COULD REMAIN AS ONE OF 18 RELIEF AGENCIES OR, OF COURSE, WITHDRAW; ANY DISAGREEMENT MUST BE DUE TO "MISUNDERSTANDINGS" WHICH HE (KOLO) EXPECTS TO DISCUSS WITH ICRC.

3. KOLO EXPRESSED HIS "DISTRESS" OVER NAVILLE'S ALLEGED STATEMENTS ESP. RE ARMS SUPPLY "WHICH ARE ISSUES OUTSIDE ICRC SPHERE". (HOWEVER, HE EXPECTS OBTAIN CLARIFICATIONS FROM HIS "GOOD FRIEND NAVILLE" SINCE PRESENT INFO IS SOLELY BASED ON REPORTERS' SAY-SO. (KOLO APPARENTLY HOPED SET STAGE FOR "MISQUOTATION" STATEMENT BY NAVILLE.)

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4. IN REPLY TO PROMPTED QUESTION RE STATUS CROSS RIVER PROJECT, KILO SAID: "CLYDE FERGUSON IS GOOD FRIEND OF MINE. WE WILL ACCEPT PROPOSAL PUT FORTH SUBJECT TO INSPECTION CARGO AND ESCORTING IT ALONG FMG PORTION CROSS RIVER. NEGOTIATIONS ARE NOW IN PROGRESS."

5. AT THIS TIME, FMG CONTEMPLATES NO QUANTITATIVE RESTRICTIONS ON FOOD BUT WANTED ELIMINATE DRIED MILK AND OTHER ITEMS UNACCEPTABLE TO NIGERIAN PALATE. INSPECTIONS AT LAGOS OR OTHER FMG SITE WILL BE EXPEDITED, JOURNALISTS MAY ATTEND INSPECTION.

6. IN ANSWER TO QUESTION WHETHER JCA FLIGHTS ARE OK, KILO ASKED, "IS THAT WHAT THEY ARE DOING, DON'T BELIEVE ALL YOU READ," HOWEVER IF THEY FLY AND ARE SHOT DOWN THEY'LL HAVE TO BLAME THEMSELVES".

7. INSPECTION AT STISABEL AND COTONOU NOT POSSIBLE. "WE HARDLY EVER DID IT PREVIOUSLY. THEY FLEW AT OWN RISK AT NIGHT AND INSPECTION WOULD HAVE MADE US ACCESSORY."

COMMENT: KILO GAVE FINE UNRUFFLED PERFORMANCE IN FACE COMPARATIVELY POORLY INFORMED, MILD-MANNERED MEDIA REPS. HE CLEARLY ADLIBBED, E.G. PERMITTING PRESS ATTEND INSPECTION, NO LIMITATIONS ON FOOD QUANTITIES ETC., TO SHOW GREATEST FORTHCOMINGNESS POSSIBLE. HE SEEMED TRY INDICATE SEVERAL TIMES THAT IMPLEMENTATION OF FMG POSITIONS (EXCEPT WITHDRAWAL, ICRC COORDINATING FUNCTION) COULD AND SHOULD BE DISCUSSED.

TUBBY

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POC 27-9 BIAFRA- NIGERIA

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 02326 032238Z

89-82
ACTION AID 28

INFO OCT 01, IO 13, UCF 05, AF 12, IGA 02, SCS 04, SCA 01, SS 20, CIAE 00,

INR 07, NSAE 00, RSC 0, RSR 01, NSC 10, 105 W

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R 031741Z JUL 69
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2028.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GENEVA 2326

STATE FOR AID HELEN WILSON/NIGERIAN DESK

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN RELIEF-ICRC FINANCES

REFERENCE GENEVA 2297

ICRC FINANCIAL DATA OBTAINED TODAY ARE EVEN MORE ANEMIC THAN LIMITED SCOPE FORECAST REFTEL-AIRPOUCHING. WHAT WE RECEIVED. REGNAZ (CHIEF FINANCE) WHO WAS TO PERSONALLY PULL TOGETHER DATA ATTENDED CONFERENCES ALL DAY LONG. DATA NOW PROMISED FOR NEXT WEEK. IF NOT FORTHCOMING AMBASSADOR WILL SIGN LETTER TO NAVILLE ASKING HIS PERSONAL INTERCESSION. BELIEVE WE AND WASHINGTON HAVE SHOWN MORE THAN REASONABLE PATIENCE. TUBBY

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 02316 031646Z

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ACTION UCF 05

INFO OCT 01, AF 12, IO 13, EUR 17, UPW 01, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02,

INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12,

AID 28, SCS 04, SCA 01, SR 01, ORM 03, RSR 01, 152 W

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R 031531Z JUL 69

FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2018
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

CONFIDENTIAL GENEVA 2316

STATE FOR U/CF

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN RELIEF

REFERENCE GENEVA 2292

1. SHOULD HAVE MENTIONED THAT STROH FULLY AWARE ICRC PLANE
WAS SHOT DOWN BY SOUTH AFRICAN MERC WORKING FOR FMG. ICRC
OFFICIALS HAS ALSO MENTIONED THAT PLANE PILOTED BY WHITE
MERCENARY. UNLESS INFO BASED ON EMBASSY LAGOS BRIEFING, WOULD
ASSUME THIS PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE BY NOW ALTHOUGH WE WILL DISCLAIM
KNOWLEDGE OF COURSE.

2. FOR LAGOS: TODAYS NYHT QUOTES OFFICIAL FEDREP PRESS SPOKESMAN
AND FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE ZEITUNG RE ARRIVAL BRIEF OF GERMAN
PILOTS AT BENIN CITY AND PORT HARCOURT. TUBBY

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GENEVA-2316

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By	NARA Date 10/3/05

Pol 27-9 Biafra - Nigeria
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OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State
31

INDICATE: COLLECT
 CHARGE TO

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Origin ACTION: Amembassy LONDON

Info: Amembassy ADDIS ABABA
GENEVA
PARIS
ROME
USUN

STATE _____

REF: State 109448

1. Request problem created by recent change in FMC policy on relief be discussed with Foley or other appropriate official. We interested HMG's reactions and intentions as well as any suggestions on how best induce two parties to agree on resumed relief shipments.
2. Request you inform HMG of demarche made to Nigerians and Biafrans today and give them substance four points contained ref tel. You should also indicate we are planning approaches to others including Vatican in attempt to have them exert what influence they can on the two sides to come to some agreement on resumption of relief shipments. We expect to be in touch soon with FCC re support of these approaches.

End.

ROGERS

⑥
Drafted by: AF/W:GBSherman:ac 7/2/69 Tel. Ext. 6402 Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by: AF - Amb. Moore

Clearances:

FORM DS-322
8-65

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Pol. 27 (Bisra) - Nigeria

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ACTION AF 18

INFO OCT 01, EUR 17, IO 13, AID 28, UCF 05, UPW 01, ACOA 16, CIAE 00, DODE 00,
JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20,
USIA 12, SR 01, ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 01, RSR 01, 174 W
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P 031800Z JUL 69
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1440
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION USUN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LONDON 5298

SUBJECT: NIGERIA: NEW DEBATE SCHEDULED IN COMMONS

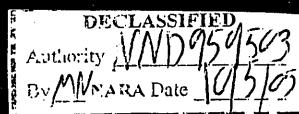
1. PRESS THIS MORNING (JULY 3) REPORTS CONSERVATIVES HAVE DECIDED TO PROVIDE TIME NEXT WEEK FOR FULL-DRESS DEBATE ON NIGERIA. THIS WILL PROBABLY OCCUR THURSDAY, JULY 10. TELEGRAPH REPORTS CHIEF OPPOSITION SPOKESMAN WILL BE SIR ALEC DOUGLAS-HOME "WHO IS LIKELY TO SUGGEST THAT TIME HAS COME FOR BRITAIN TO SPONSOR MOTION IN SECURITY COUNCIL CALLING FOR INTERNATIONAL BAN ON ARMS FROM ALL COUNTRIES INTO ANY PART OF NIGERIA." DAILY MAIL SPECULATES THAT PM WILSON MAY SEND HIGH-RANKING SPECIAL ENVOY TO LAGOS TO HELP MEDIATE BETWEEN FMG AND ICRC.

2. COMMENT: NEW FULL-SCALE DEBATE MEANS FONOFF OFFICIALS AND
MINISTERS CONCERNED WITH NIGERIA WILL HAVE HANDS FULL NEXT
WEEK. WE SAW MAURICE FOLEY BRIEFLY EARLIER THIS WEEK AND
HE SAID CONSIDERATION WAS BEING GIVEN TO SENDING LORD HUNT TO
LAGOS TO HELP GET RELIEF PROGRAM BACK ON TRACKS.
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INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 01, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIE 00, SR 01,
ORM 03, UCF 05, UPW 01, SCS 04, SCA 01, AID 28, RSR 01, 146 W
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P: 031559Z JUL 69
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1427
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
USMISSION GENEVA
USUN NEW YORK 1760

CONFIDENTIAL LONDON 5279

SUBJ: NIGERIAN RELIEF: BRITISH OFFICIALS CONSULT WITH ICRC

REF: STATE 109941 - *Pol 27-9 Biafra - Nigeria*

1. FONOFF'S MAURICE FOLEY (PARLIAMENTARY UNDER SECTY) AND DONALD
TEBBIT (ASS'T UNDER SECTY) RETURNED LAST NIGHT (JULY 2) FROM
FLYING TRIP TO GENEVA WHERE THEY MET WITH ICRC'S NAVILLE, FREYMOND,
AND BORSINGER IN EFFORT TO PREVENT IRREPARABLE BREAK IN ICRC-
NIGERIAN RELATIONS.

2. THIS MORNING TEBBIT FILLED US IN ON RESULTS OF MISSION AND
HOW BRITISH HOPE SITUATION WILL EVOLVE. WE IN TURN ACQUAINTED
HIM WITH DEPT'S FOUR-POINT APPROACH (REFTEL) AND LIKELIHOOD
OF APPROACHES SOON TO OTHERS, INCLUDING VATICAN. TEBBIT'S
PERSONAL REACTION WAS THAT INITIATIVES RELATED TO DAYLIGHT
FLIGHTS AND CROSS RIVER ROUTE WERE VALUABLE AND TIMELY. HE
DOUBTED THAT FMG COULD BE PERSUASION TO REVERSE ITSELF ON NIGHT
FLIGHTS, EVEN FOR LIMITED PERIOD, AND HOPED OUR APPROACH IN
LAGOS ON THIS POINT DID NOT GET FMG'S BACK UP AND MAKE NIGERIANS
LESS COOPERATIVE ON OTHER POINTS.

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3. TURNING TO FOLEY'S AND HIS GENEVA TRIP: TEBBIT SAID THEY WERE ASTONISHED AT MILDNESS OF NAVILLE'S COMMENTS ABOUT FMG AFTER HIS FIREEATING AT PRESS CONFERENCE PREVIOUS DAY. NAVILLE TOLD THEM THAT ICRC DID NOT DISPISE FMG'S RIGHT TO INSTITUTE CONTROLS OVERRELIEF DISTRIBUTION ANNOUNCED BY ENAHORO. WHAT THEY OBJECTED TO WAS MANNER IN WHICH THIS HAD BEEN DONE, WITHOUT PRIOR CONSULTATION OR ANY EXPRESSION OF THANKS TO ICRC. GIVEN RESTRAINT WITH WHICH ICRC HAD REACTED TO SHOOTING DOWN OF RELIEF PLANE IN JUNE, NAVILLE HAD FOUND IT NECESSARY TO ANSWER FMG VIGOROUSLY.

4. ICRC WANTED TO COOPERATE WITH FMG IN TRANSFERRING RELIEF COORDINATION TO NIGERIAN REHABILITATION COMMISSION, HOWEVER, AND WAS ANXIOUS FOR TRANSFER TO TAKE PLACE IN FRIENDLY ATMOSPHERE. ICRC BELIEVED THAT RELIEF SITUATION WAS REASONABLY SATISFACTORY IN FMG-CONTROLLED AREAS AND THEIR CHIEF CONCERN WAS TO MAKE ADEQUATE ARRANGEMENTS FOR PERSONNEL AND REMAINING RELIEF SUPPLIES FOR WHICH ICRC WAS RESPONSIBLE TO DONORS.

5. SITUATION IN BIAFRAN ENCLAVE WAS ANOTHER MATTER AND ICRC WAS EXTREMELY CONCERNED ABOUT IT. IF FAMINE CONDITIONS WERE CREATED COMPARABLE TO THOSE THAT EXISTED EARLIER THIS YEAR EFFECTS COULD BE IMMEDIATE AND CATASTROPHIC IN VIEW WEAKENED STATE OF POPULATION'S HEALTH. NAVILLE THOUGHT BEST WAY TO AVOID THIS DANGER WAS PROMPT INAUGURATION OF DAYLIGHT AIRLIFT. ICRC DID NOT WANT TO INFRINGE ON NIGERIAN SOVEREIGNTY AND HAD NO OBJECTION TO INSPECTION TAKING PLACE ON FEDERAL TERRITORY ALTHOUGH FOR "TECHNICAL REASONS" THEY WOULD PREFER THIS BE DONE AT CALABAR OR PORT HARCOURT. SIMILARLY, ICRC ACCEPTED FMG'S VIEWS ON CARGO AND PASSENGERS. ONLY ICRC REQUIREMENT WAS ASSURANCE FROM FMG OF SECURITY AIRCRAFT AND CREWS FLYING UNDER AGREED CONDITIONS.

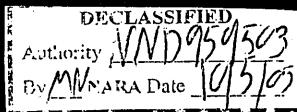
6. THIS OF COURSE WOULD CREATE PROBLEMS WITH BIAFRANS AND NAVILLE WAS THINKING OF SENDING SENIOR ICRC REP TO TALK TO QUUKWU IN ENCLAVE. HE HAD EVEN CONSIDERED MAKING TRIP HIMSELF. NAVILLE WAS ALSO IN FAVOR OF ICRC MISSION TO LAGOS TO WORK OUT DETAILS OF TRANSFER OF COORDINATING AUTHORITY TO REHABILITATION COMMISSION AND OTHER PROBLEMS.

7. IN LATTER CONNECTION NAVILLE SOUGHT BRITISH HELP IN PERSUADING FMG TO MAKE "SMALL GESTURE" OF RECONCILIATION BY INVITING

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ICRC T SEND REP TO LAGOS FOR TALKS. NAVILLE HOPED INVITATION COULD COME FROM GOWON AND PHRASED "WITHOUT POLEMICS." TEBBIT SAID BRITISH AGREED TO STIMULATE "WARM" INVITATION BUT COULD NOT GUARANTEE IT WOULD BE FROM GOWON. IF FMG AGREED, IT WAS MORE LIKELY THAT INVITATION WOULD BE IN NAME OF ARIKPO, ENAHORO OR OMO-BARE. NAVILLE ACCEPTED THIS AND SAID FREYMOND WOULD PROBABLY BE ICRC REP TO MAKE TRIP TO LAGOS, AS WELL AS SUBSEQUENT TRIP TO SEE OJUKWU, IF THIS PROVED NECESSARY.

8. ACCORDING TO TEBBIT, INSTRUCTION WAS SENT LAST NIGHT TO SIR LESLIE GLASS IN LAGOS ASKING HIM TO APPROACH FMG AT APPROPRIATE LEVEL (PROBABLY ENAHORO) RE INVITATION. GLASS IS ALSO TO URGE THAT FMG PUBLISH ITS INVITATION WHEN MADE. TEBBIT NOTED THAT BRITISH HAD SUGGESTED TO NAVILLE THAT ICRC'S ACCEPTANCE OF INVITATION (IF EXTENDED) SHOULD ALSO BE COUCHED IN FRIENDLY TERMS SUITABLE FOR PUBLICATION.

9. LASTLY, TEBBIT TOLD US THAT NAVILLE HAD EXPRESSED INTEREST IN ARIKPO'S VISITING GENEVA DURING CURRENT EUROPEAN TRIP. BRITISH DO NOT FAVOR THIS HOWEVER SINCE THEY BELIEVE LITTLE COULD BE ACCOMPLISHED WITH ARIKPO AWAY FROM HIS HOME BASE.
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POC 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 02321 031701Z

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ACTION UCF 05

INFO OCT 01, AF 12, IO 13, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03,
NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SPI 02, SS 20, USIA 12, SR 01, ORM 03,
SCS 04, SCA 01, AID 28, UPW 01, EI 15, EUR 17, RSR 01, /167 W
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R 031611Z JUL 69
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2023
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS
USUN NEW YORK 3235

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 2321

STATE FOR U/CF

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN RELIEF

REF: GENEVA 2300 PARA 1 (F)

1. FOLLOWING INFO OBTAINED FROM OERNER (WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES): DURING RUMP SESSION (NAVILLE/FREYMOND, BEER/LICROSS, STROH, PRES. SWEDISH RC, OERNER, WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES) SCANDINAVIANS TOOK ICRC TO TASK FOR HIGH-HANDED TACTICS VIS-A-VIS FMG. THEY SUGGESTED NAVILLE/FREYMOND ASK DR. CARSON BLAKE (SECGEN WCC) TO INTERcede; LATTER COULD MAKE AVAILABLE SERVICES BURGESS CARR (CHIEF AFRICAN DESK WCC) WHO KNEW MOST OF PERSONALITIES INVOLVED AND BEING WEST AFRICAN HAD BETTER UNDERSTANDING NIGERIAN MENTALITY.

2. NAVILLE/FREYMOND INDICATED ICRC/GENEVA HAD HAD DIFFERENCES WITH LINDT WHOM THEY CONSIDERED OVERLY PRO-BIAFRA. THEY AGAIN APPEALED TO VOLAG SOLIDARITY AND EXPRESSED HOPE COMMON FRONT COULD BE MAINTAINED.

3. ACCORDING OERNER (WHO NO GREAT ADMIRER ICRC) NAVILLE/FREYMOND, EVER SINCE AXE FELL ON JUNE 30, HAVE BEEN MAKING "PATHETIC" ATTEMPTS GENERATE SOLIDARITY DECLARATION BY VOLAGS IN FAVOR ICRC REQUESTING IT CONTINUE ITS COORDINATING ROLE.

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COMMENT: AGENCY ALIGNMENTS SEEM TO BE SHIFTING. PRESENTLY CATHOLIC WING OF JCA (CHENARD) SEEM MORE SYMPATHETIC TO ICRC THAN AT LEAST NORDIC (CHURCH) GROUP OF PROTESTANT UNITS. CHENARD COMMENTED TODAY RATHER BITTERLY ABOUT NORCHAID RELEASE ON JCA NIGHT FLIGHTS (GENEVA 2294). WCC REP, IN TURN, SEEMED LESS THAN ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT HOLY SEE PROPOSAL BRING RELIEF TO BIAFRA THROUGH ROME BASED CARITAS FLIGHTS AS REPORTED IN PRESS TODAY.
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Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 02322 031724Z

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ACTION UCF 05

INFO OCT 01, AF 12, IO 13, CIAF 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03,

NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, UPW 01, AID 28,

SCS 04, SCA 01, SR 01, ORM 03, E 15, (RSR) 01, 150 W

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R 031611Z JUL 69

FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2024
INFO AMEMBASSY COTONOU
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
USUN NEW YORK 3236

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GENEVA 2322

STATE FOR U/CF

SUBJECT: NIGERIA - NIGHT FLIGHTS

1. ACCORDING JCA/GENEVA THERE WERE SEVEN FLIGHTS AND FIVE LANDINGS DURING NIGHTS JULY 1 TO JULY 2. TWO FLIGHTS HAD TO TURN BACK ACCOUNT ENGINE TROUBLE. FRAGMENTARY REPORT INDICATES ONE CANAIR PLANE HIT IN NOSE; NO DETAILS WHETHER AIR TO AIR OR GROUND FIRE. TUBBY

①

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 95/503
By NARA Date 10/5/05



POL 27-9 BIAFRA - NIGERIA

Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL 555

PAGE 01 GENEVA 02294 021703Z

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ACTION UCF 05

INFO OCT 01, AF 12, IO 13, EUR 17, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPMI 04, H 02, INR 07,

L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, AID 28,

UPW 01, SCS 04, SCA 01, SR 01, ORM 03, RSR 01, ACDA 16, 168 W
005301

021602Z JUL 69
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1996
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS
USUN NEW YORK 3221

CONFIDENTIAL GENEVA 2294

STATE FOR U/CF

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN RELIEF - NIGHT FLIGHTS

REF: GENEVA 2270

1. RADIO TODAY BROADCAST IN RCHURCH ANNOUNCEMENT OF SIX EMERGENCY FLIGHTS ON JUN 30. (NO INFO YET RE FLIGHTS JULY 1). JCA/GENEVA UNHAPPY ABOUT ANNOUNCEMENT AS IT HAD BEEN N.Y. POLICY KEEP FLIGHTS OUT OF NEWS.

2. FLIGHTS WERE MADE WITHOUT ANY HARRASSMENT.

3. GENERAL BERG SPEAKING AS EXPERT APPARENTLY HAS BEEN OPPOSING FLIGHTS BASED INFO THAT NEW RUSSIAN FIGHTERS AND SECOND RADAR INSTALLATION SHOULD BECOME OPERATIVE ALMOST MOMENTARILY. BERG, ACCORDING JCA, BELIEVES FMG WILL TRY LULL JCA INTO SAFE FEELING ALLOWING FLIGHTS UNHINDERED FOR SEVERAL DAYS OR WEEKS AND THEN SWOOP DOWN ON THEM ONE NIGHT FINISHING AIR BRIDGE WITH ONE BLOW.

4. FOREGOING COULD REPEAT COULD FIT IN WITH GENEVA LIMDIS 2293.
TUBBY

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Authority VND959503
By MMARA Date 10/5/05

AF
Enclosure No. 1
A-310 from Lagos

FEDERAL MINISTRY OF INFORMATION
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

PRESS RELEASE NO. 692

1. 7. 69

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
X EMBARGO: Not to be published or broadcast
X before 5 p.m. today July 1, 1969
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

To: The Federal Government of Nigeria
The Government of Canada
The Government of Poland
The Government of Sweden
The Government of the United Kingdom

Copies to: The Organisation of African Unity
The Office of the Representative of the
Secretary General of the United Nations

OBSERVER TEAM TO NIGERIA
REPORT ON ACTIVITIES OF THE REPRESENTATIVES OF
CANADA, POLAND, SWEDEN, AND THE UNITED KINGDOM
DURING THE PERIOD FROM 1 MAY 1969 - 27 JUNE 1969

INTRODUCTION

1. This report gives an account of the activities of the Observers of Canada, Poland, Sweden, and the United Kingdom for the period 1 May to 27 June 1969. A list of the members of the Observer Team as of 27 June 1969 is at Annex A.
2. The Observer Team during the period covered by this report visited all three Divisional areas, made one trip to Northern States not directly affected by the war, and visited camps for displaced persons and camps for Prisoners of War in the Lagos area. A list of the visits made and the names of Observers taking part in each is at Annex B.
3. On each tour the team visited Divisional, Brigade, and Battalion Headquarters and forward troops positions. Federal
/troops of all....

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By *MN* Date *10/5/05*

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troops of all ranks were interviewed. In addition, civil administrators, medical and relief agency staffs, teachers, police, clergy, and people of all walks of life indigenous to the area were interviewed. Civilians in newly liberated areas and those who had recently crossed to the Federal side from Secessionist held areas were in particular sought out and interviewed.

4. On all visits the Observer Team made up its own movement plans and programmes and were allowed complete freedom of movement by the Federal Military Government and the Armed Forces.
5. At Annex C is a summary of the total number of visits and distance travelled from the beginning of the Team's operation in Nigeria on 24 September 1968 to 27 June 1969.

THE WAR AREA

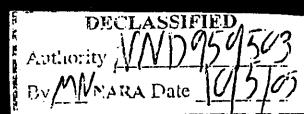
6. Federal control has now been re-established over all of the Mid Western State, all but a very small part of the South Eastern State, and the Rivers State. The war is now restricted to a portion of the East Central State. All of Nsukka, Udi, Abakaliki, Afikpo and Awka provinces and parts of Bende, Awgu, Okigwi and Onitsha provinces are under Federal control. In these latter four provinces all the major towns are also under Federal control. The Secessionist held area is approximately 1.1 per cent of the Federation of Nigeria or expressed in another way, 13.5 per cent of that area which previously made up the former Eastern Region, or approximately 30 per cent of the present East Central State.

FIRST NIGERIAN DIVISION

7. During the period 10-15 June 1969 inclusive, visits were made to Enugu, Abakaliki, Afikpo, Bende, Umuahia, Uzuakoli, Awgu, Okigwi, Ake-Eze, Awka, Onitsha and Udi.
8. It was found that throughout the whole of 1 Divisional area there was a marked reduction in the number of people occupying displaced.....

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occupying displaced persons camps. The population of the area has moved into the villages and are attempting to return to a normal routine. Markets were noted in operation and a good cooperative relationship between the civilians and the Military Forces exists. Many civilians are still dependent to a very great extent on Relief Agencies for food and medical care. For example the feeding centre at Afikpo is serving some 45,000 people, that at Uturu 70,000 and at Aka-Eze 10,000. The spread of the population throughout the area has increased the problems of the Relief Agencies. Many of the villages are in areas closed to the agencies for operational reasons. The Federal Military Forces are assisting wherever possible but the lack of medical attention, the shortage of medical personnel and supplies and the shortage of certain commodities was causing considerable concern.

9. The Save the Children Fund Hospital at Awgu where 350 patients were under treatment was visited. The hospital had been re-located since the last visit of the Observers and there was a noted improvement in facilities. The hospital, however, is seriously understaffed and the medical team there voiced their concern. There was also a shortage of medical supplies. The cessation of commercial flights from Lagos to Enugu has worsened this serious situation. A similar situation exists at Udi where an ICRC medical team was visited.

10. The troops seen by the Observers were well disciplined and fully under the control of their Commanders. Many of the civilians interviewed who had recently crossed from the Secessionist held areas described, with praise the compassionate and cooperative treatment by the Federal troops who they had encountered.

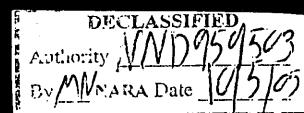
SECOND NIGERIAN DIVISION

11. Two visits were made to 2 Divisional area. The first covered the period 6-9 May 1969 and included visits to Benin,

/Asaba, Onitsha....

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Asaba, Onitsha, and Ibusa. The second visit covered the period 10-13 June 1969 when Benin, Agbor, Asaba, Ibusa, Ogwashi-Uku, Kwale, Ughelli and Warri were visited.

12. A great improvement in the conditions and circumstances of the refugees in the Asaba-Ibusa area was noted in the second visit over those that pertained during the first. Refugee camps have been closed at Ibusa and the occupants now live in their own homes or with relatives in the area. Now that Ibusa is again occupied and the people there are attempting to establish a normal routine it is suggested that there is an immediate necessity to establish Civil Administrators in the area to provide the supervision, control, and assistance required, for this area to become a viable community.

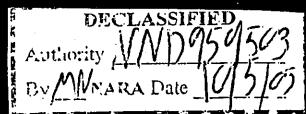
13. Two camps at Agbor not previously seen by Observers were visited. These contain 689 persons. The camps are well run, with medical attention and food supplied by the ICRC and Rehabilitation Committee.

14. The three refugee camps in Benin were visited. One camp contained 69 adult males only. The Rehabilitation Committee is attempting to find employment for these men within the civilian community. They were having some difficulty as several men had returned to the camp preferring an easy and secure life there rather than accepting a job. This again points out the advisability of re-settling people as soon as possible and not allowing them to become too accustomed to refugee camp life. A newly established camp was seen which at the time of the visit, 9 May, 1969, had 585 inhabitants of all ages and both sexes with a further 300 expected. This camp was well laid out, the accommodation was clean with no signs of overcrowding, and the routine was well organized. Many of the occupants were interviewed and all voiced satisfaction with the decision to evacuate them from the area and with the treatment by the Federal Forces and the Rehabilitation Committee.

/THIRD MARINE.....

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THIRD MARINE COMMANDO DIVISION

15. Visits were made to Port Harcourt, Bonny, Akwete, Elele, Elele Alimini, Ahoada, Okomoko, Azumini, Abak, Uyo, Itu, Ikot Okpon, Ikot Ekpene, Nwaniba, Oron and Calabar during the period 26-31 May inclusive.

16. The Observers visited the refugee camp at Calabar and found a great improvement since the last visit in the condition of the occupants and accommodation. Regular medical care is provided, a school is in operation and work programmes for the adults have been organized.

17. At Elele Alimini a military hospital was visited. It was noted that the 300 bed hospital was seriously overcrowded and staffed by only one doctor. There is also an acute shortage of nursing staff. There is cause for concern over the care of the in-patients and the large number of out-patients because of the tremendous task facing such a relatively small medical staff.

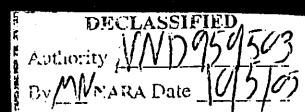
18. At Chokocho it was noted that 56 persons were being detained at a detention barracks. Fourteen of these had been declared to be Prisoners of War; the remaining had been screened from among refugees and were being held until such time as their status could be determined. The Observers have some reservations in connection with civilian refugees being held in a very small space without adequate exercise. Some had been detained for as long as six months and this appears to be excessive.

19. The Team visited Camp Ikomiko where over four thousand refugees are cared for. The camp facilities were inspected and found to be above average. The morale was extremely high and there was evidence of close cooperation between the refugees and military authorities who supervise the camp.

/PRISONERS OF WAR.....

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PRISONERS OF WAR

20. On 4 June 1969 the Observers visited the recently established Prisoner of War Camp in Lagos which was mentioned in previous reports. This camp is now occupied and more closely meets the requirements of the Geneva Convention. The camp is operated entirely by the Federal Army. Each prisoner has bunk with a foam mattress and blanket. Food is adequate and prisoners are permitted to send and receive letters. A regular physical exercise programme is carried out. The Nigerian Red Cross visits the camp regularly and a doctor visits twice weekly.

21. The Observers also visited Prisoners of War held at the Kiri Kiri and Ikoyi prisons. The prison superintendents are to be commended for their cooperative attitude and professionalism in the conduct of their responsibilities. The Observers were permitted complete freedom of investigation of conditions.

22. Approximately 630 Prisoners of War including 23 officers were seen at Kiri Kiri. The prisoners appeared to be well fed and adequately housed although overcrowding was in evidence. Clothing was in short supply. Visits by the Red Cross, a traditional function, were infrequent, the last visit having been made early in May.

23. Thirty five other ranks and one officer were seen at Ikoyi. They had no complaints but voiced a desire to be moved as soon as possible to the Lagos Camp to join those recently transferred there from Ikoyi.

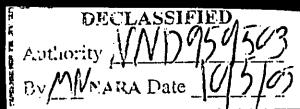
24. Many prisoners interviewed by the Observers claimed that they had surrendered to Federal forces, some claimed that they had fought on the Secessionist side against their will and were in complete sympathy with the concept of the One Nigeria. The early rehabilitation of these prisoners consistent with security warrants consideration.

25. Throughout the Divisional areas the Observers interviewed Prisoners of War who had not been despatched to rear areas.

/They claimed fair....

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They claimed fair treatment by the Federal troops and did not appear to be in fear of the Federal Military Forces. The Observers have noted an ever increasing number of the Secessionists held as Prisoners of War who are in the age bracket of 14 and 15 years; one interviewed was only 13 years of age.

Many claimed that they had been conscripted, given two or three days training and despatched to the front. Some of them had not even been issued with uniforms and when captured or when they surrendered were wearing civilian clothing. Several Secessionist Prisoners of War, including officers, stated that the Secessionist troops rations consisted of food supplied by Relief Agencies. This was confirmed by a civilian District Officer who had recently crossed over from the Secessionist to the Federal side.

26. Some of the Prisoners of War have been used on patrolling tasks as guides for the Federal troops because of their intimate knowledge of the terrain and foot paths through the bush. The Observers consider this to be an isolated incident but consider it to be an unethical practice and strongly recommend that all Prisoners of War being detained in the war front areas be evacuated to areas outside the war zones.

AIR OPERATIONS

27. The Observers visited the Nigerian Air Force Station at Enugu on 13 June 1969. Air mission requests were made available for study. Each was certified by the requesting authority that the target was military and not civilian and when approved by the Nigerian Air Force an endorsement was made by the authorising commander to the effect that military targets only would be attacked by those carrying out the mission.

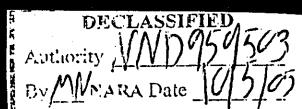
CIVIL AUTHORITIES

28. Kano State. It was noted that the Caretaker Committee on Abandoned Houses at Kano had 1,131 properties under their control

/and that to.....

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and that to 15 May 1969, the date of the visit, had collected some £58,830 rent for these buildings. After administration and maintenance charges were deducted £48,079 was being held in trust to be returned to the owners when they claimed their properties. As of the date of the visit 75 owners had made claims. Four of these were interviewed by the Observers all stated that they were satisfied with the handling of their property and with their personal treatment since their return. They did, however, complain of the delays in the return of the rent money held in trust for them. This delay appeared to be administrative only.

29. North Central State. At Kaduna there are over 1,000 abandoned properties of which about 500 homes and hotels are under caretaker's administration. Some of the properties were visited and found to be in good repair and being well maintained. The Administration at the time of the visit, 16 May 1969, was holding some £36,000 in trust for the absentee owners. No one had come forward and claimed any property up to the time of the visit.

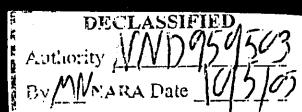
30. South Eastern State Discussions were held with the State Governor who outlined plans for the development of port facilities and communications network which would facilitate future State development. The area shows many signs of a return to normalcy, markets are flourishing, crops are planted and schools are in operation. An early re-opening of industries made idle by the conflict is receiving priority consideration.

31. Rivers State The Observers were favourably impressed with the progress made by the civil administration to rehabilitate the citizens and to come to grips with the problems of reconstruction. The provision of medical care and the raising of standard of living of the people indigenous to the riverine areas is receiving priority attention. There was much

/evidence of a

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evidence of a return to normal conditions. The lack of public transport and electrical power however, was causing some concern.

32. East Central State. The Observers interviewed officials of the Administration of East Central State at Enugu and found that great progress is being made in the organizing and functioning of the State's administrative machinery. It is an Ibo Administration and has the support of the large Ibo population now in Federally controlled part of East Central State. The main problems being encountered by the administration and which seriously hamper its activities are a lack of good communications with other States and with the Federal Government in Lagos and probably on account of this there is a reluctance on the part of banks and commercial houses to return and re-establish their operations. There are approximately 40,000 civilians in the Enugu area alone and an urgent requirement exists for the opening of financial institutions in particular to permit normal commerce to operate and reconstruction programmes to get fully underway.

DAMAGE AND DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY

33. Much of the damage caused to property has been the result of combat, however, it has been noted that due to the length of time buildings have been unoccupied in the war zones the elements are taking their toll and some, both public and private, are rapidly deteriorating, specially those that are now without roofs, windows, doors, etc. It has also been noted that damage continues to occur by the removal of doors, window frames, and corrugated iron from roofs for the construction of sections posts and shelters by soldiers and civilians. This is understandable especially with the advent of the rainy season but this practice must be considered in the light of the compounding of the reconstruction and rehabilitation problems.

/SUMMARY.....

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By MNARA Date 10/5/05

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SUMMARY

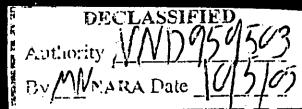
34. In summary, the Observers representing Canada, Poland, Sweden, and the United Kingdom during their visits from 1 May 1969 to 27 June 1969 found -

- a. The Secessionist held are is now restricted to approximately 30 percent of the East Central State.
- b. Refugees and displaced persons in the war affected areas occupied by the Federal Forces are still dependent to a very great extent on relief agencies for food and medical care.
- c. Recent returnees from the Secessionist held areas spoke highly of the compassion and active cooperation of the Federal Forces.
- d. There is a shortage of civil administrators in many forward areas where there are now large groups of civilians. It is suggested that consideration be given to the early appointment and deployment of District Officers.
- e. Military and civilian hospitals in the areas directly affected by the war are seriously understaffed.
- f. Some civilian refugees are being held in detention for an excessive period of time in forward areas. It is recommended that screening of refugees be expedited with a view of their earliest possible release, consistent with security and their personal safety.
- g. Prisoners of War are being held for what is considered long periods of time in the forward areas. These prisoners should be despatched to the rear areas as quickly as possible.

/h. Many of the.....

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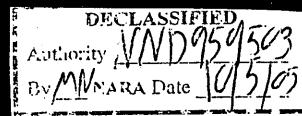
- h. Many of the Prisoners of War being held in the Lagos area voice sympathy with and support for the Federal Military Government and a United Nigeria. It is suggested that consideration be given to the processing of these prisoners by a Review Board with a view to their early rehabilitation.
- i. The Administration at Enugu is an Ibo administration and is actively engaged in the rehabilitation of the thousands of Ibos now in Federal held areas. The existence of this administration belies charges of genocide.

SIGNED: Brigadier General C.J.A. Hamilton - CANADA
 Major General Bror von Vegesack - SWEDEN
 Colonel Alfons Olkiewicz - POLAND
 Colonel Douglas J. Cairns - UNITED KINGDOM.

/Annex A to.....

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Annex A to
Observer Team's Report
on Activities
1 May to 27 June 1969

LIST OF MEMBERS OF THE OBSERVER TEAM
(as of 27 June 1969)

Canada

Brigadier General C. J. A. Hamilton
Major G. E. Harper

Poland

Colonel A. Olkiewicz
Mr. T. Kumanek
Lieutenant M. Byczy

Sweden

Major General B. von Vegesack (Major General A. Wahlgren
until 20 June 1969)

Major I. Torefalk (Major L. Nasstrom
until 8 June 1969)

United Kingdom

Colonel D. J. Cairns
Major I. A. Walsworth-Bell

OTHER REPRESENTATIVES

Organization of African Unity *

Mr. O. Lefgoum

United Nations

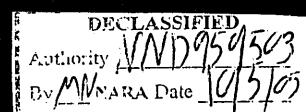
Brigadier Said Uddin Khan
Dr. E. H. Jensen

* In addition Captain G. Yilma until 18 May, 1969.

/Annex B to

AROS/Yah.

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Annex B to
Observer Team's Report
on Activities
1 May to 27 June 1969

SUMMARY OF VISITS 1 MAY-27 JUNE 1969

1. FIRST NIGERIAN DIVISION 10-15 JUNE 1969

Enugu, Abakaliki, Afikpo, Bende, Umuahia, Uzuakoli, Awgu, Okigwi, Ake-Eze, Awka, Onitsha, and Udi.
Brigadier General Hamilton, Colonel Olkiewicz, Major Harper and Major Walsworth-Bell

2. SECOND NIGERIAN DIVISION

a. 6-9 May 1969

Benin, Asaba, Onitsha, and Ibusa.

Major General Wahlgren, Colonel Cairns, Colonel Olkiewicz, Major Harper, Major Nasstrom, and Mr. Kumanek. Accompanied by Captain Yilma (OAU).

b. 10-13 June 1969

Benin, Agbor, Asaba, Ibusa, Ogwashi-Uku, Kwale, Ughelli, and Warri.

Major General Wahlgren, Colonel Cairns and Mr. Kumanek. Accompanied by Brigadier Khan (UN).

3. THIRD MARINE COMMANDO DIVISION 26-31 MAY 1969

Port Harcourt, Bonny, Akwete, Ahoada, Elele, Elele Alimini, Chokoche, Okomoko, Azumini, Abak, Uyo, Itu, Ikot Okpon, Ikot Ekpene, Nwaniba, Oron and Calabar.

Brigadier General Hamilton, Colonel Cairns, Colonel Olkiewicz, Major Harper, Major Nasstrom, Major Walsworth-Bell and Lieutenant Byczy. Accompanied by Brigadier Khan (UN) and Mr. Lefgoum (OAU)

4. KANO STATE 14-15 MAY 1969

KANO.

Brigadier General Hamilton, Major Harper, Major Nasstrom, Mr. Kumanek and Lieutenant Byczy. Accompanied by Brigadier

/Khan (UN),.....

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Khan (UN), Dr. Jensen (UN) and Mr. Lefgoum (OAU).

5. NORTH CENTRAL STATE 15-17 MAY 1969

Zaria and Kaduna.

Brigadier General Hamilton, Major Harper, Major Nasstrom, Mr. Kumanek, and Lieutenant Byczy. Accompanied by Brigadier Khan (UN), Dr. Jensen (UN) and Mr. Lefgoum (OAU).

6. SURULERE REFUGEE CAMP 4 JUNE 1969

Major General Wahlgren, Brigadier General Hamilton, Major Harper, Major Walsworth-Bell and Mr. Kumanek.

7. PRISONER OF WAR CAMPS - LAGOS AREA

a. 5 June 1969

Colonel Cairns, Colonel Olkiewicz, Major Harper, Major Nasstrom and Lieutenant Byczy.

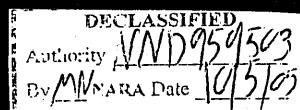
b. 20 June 1969

Major General von Vegesack, Brigadier General Hamilton, Colonel Cairns and Colonel Olkiewicz.

/Annex C to

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Lagos A-310
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Annex C to
Observer Team's Report
on Activities
1 May to 27 June 1969

NUMBER OF VISITS AND DISTANCES TRAVELED BY THE OBSERVER
TEAM FROM 24 SEPTEMBER 1968 TO 27 JUNE 1969

1. VISITS

a.	First Nigerian Division Area	11
b.	Second Nigerian Division Area	7
c.	Third Marine Commando Division Area	10
d.	Areas not directly affected by the war (excluding Lagos area)	6
e.	Lagos Area	12
f.	Total	46

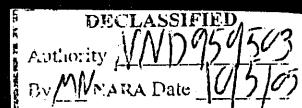
2. <u>DISTANCE TRAVELED</u>	<u>Miles</u>	<u>Kilometres</u>
a. By Aircraft	19,000	30,500
b. By Motor Vehicles	12,000	19,200
c. By Water Vehicles	280	450
d. Total	31,280	50,150

Note. These distances do not include those travelled
in the Lagos area.

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EMBARGO: Not to be published or broadcast
before 5 p.m. today, July 1, 1969
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Pol 27, Biafra Nigeria
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 01 OTTAWA 00974 032254Z

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ACTION AF 18

INFO OCT 01, EUR 17, IO 13, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03,
NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, SCSE 00, SCA 01,
SR 01, ORM 03, AID 28, UPW 01, UCF 05, RSR 01, /154 W
015344

R 032240Z JUL 69
FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4904
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS
USMISSION USUN NY

UNCLAS OTTAWA 974

SUBJ: RELIEF TO NIGERIA AND BIAFRA.

1. FACING BARRAGE OF QUESTIONING IN COMMONS JULY 2 ABOUT FORCED WITHDRAWAL FROM NIGERIA OF RED CROSS, EXTAFF MIN. SHARP SAID THAT "FROM THE NEWS AVAILABLE TO US, IT APPEARS THAT ON BOTH SIDES POLITICAL AND MILITARY CONSIDERATIONS ARE TAKING PRECEDENCE OVER THE LIVES OF INNOCENT PEOPLE. ON FRIDAY THE PRIME MINISTER SENT A MESSAGE TO GENERAL GOWON OF THE FMG IN WHICH HE REMINDED THE NIGERIAN HEAD OF STATE OF THE DEEP AND CONTINUING CONCERN OF THE CANADIAN PEOPLE FOR THE INNOCENT SUFFERING AS A RESULT OF THE CONFLICT. WE ARE CONSULTING WITH OTHER INTERESTED GOVERNMENTS CONCERNING WHAT SHOULD BE DONE UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES. WE HAVE BEEN IN TOUCH ALREADY WITH THE CANADIAN RED CROSS AND THIS AFTERNOON I SHALL BE SEEING A REPRESENTATIVE OF CANAIR RELIEF TO DISCUSS HIS VIEWS. WE ARE, OF COURSE, NOT YET IN A POSITION TO FORMULATE OUR POLICY FOR THE FUTURE BECAUSE THERE ARE SOME ELEMENTS OF UNCERTAINTY WHICH WE WOULD LIKE TO CLARIFY FIRST."

2. IN PRESS INTERVIEW OUTSIDE COMMONS, SHARP SAID PRIME MINISTER'S MESSAGE INCLUDED SPECIFIC REQUEST THAT GENERAL GOWON TAKE ALL POSSIBLE STEPS TO KEEP RELIEF FLOWING INTO BIAFRA. SHARP ALSO REVEALED THAT PRIME MINISTER'S SPECIAL ASSISTANT IVAN HEAD HAD RECENTLY MADE SECOND TRIP TO

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Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 02 OTTAWA 00974 032254Z

LAGOS ON BEHALF OF PRIME MINISTER.

3. IN INTERVIEW SHARP ALSO SAID GOC'S FIRST OBJECTIVE WOULD BE TO GET RED CROSS REESTABLISHED IN NIGERIA SO THAT IT COULD CONTINUE RELIEF EFFORTS TO WHICH GOC HAS CONTRIBUTED ABOUT \$3 MILLION SO FAR. FAILING THAT, OTHER CHOICES, INCLUDING POSSIBILITY OF CHANELLING GOC AID THROUGH CANAIRI RELIEF, WOULD BE CONSIDERED.

4. ALSO IN PRESS INTERVIEW, SHARP SAID GOC HAD NOT YET DESPAIRED OF PERSUADING NIGERIA AND BIAFRA TO COOPERATE ON RELIEF/FLIGHT FORMULA. HE ADDED THAT CANADIAN INITIATIVE IN UN WOULD BE CONSIDERED IF TWO COMBATANTS CONTINUED TO PLACE POLITICAL AND MILITARY REQUIREMENTS AHEAD OF PRESSING HUMANITARIAN NEEDS OF STARVING INNOCENTS. SHARP SAID VALUE OF UN DEBATE WOULD LIE IN ITS POTENTIAL FOR MOBILIZING WORLD PUBLIC OPINION ON BEHALF OF PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF WAR RATHER THAN MILITARY ONE. LINDER

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(21) *POL 27-9 Biafra - Nigeria*
OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: COLLECT
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Origin ACTION: Amembassy ROME PRIORITY

Info:

REFS: State 109448, Rome 4038, Lagos 6024

1. In response to Vatican memorandum, request you convey to appropriate Vatican official our recognition and appreciation of depth Holy See's commitment to suffering victims Nigerian civil war. We share distress at current interruption relief effort which results from intransigence both sides. We continuing strong efforts prevail on two sides to come to agreement which will permit resumption relief shipments by river route and by daylight flights. Nigerian policy statement of June 30 which imposed new conditions for relief shipments into Biafran enclave adds urgency that task. We would hope the Holy See can bring its great influence to bear and Biafrans and, if it believes it would be helpful, on FMG, urge on ~~both sides~~ the vital necessity of ~~them~~ coming to some daylight flights and Cross River water route agreement on ~~relied~~ as soon as possible in order to avoid repetition of last summer's tragedy.

GP-3

END

[ROGERS]

Drafted by: *AEW:GBSherry:emb* 7/2/69 Tel. Ext. 6402 Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by: *AF - C. Robert Moore*

Clearances:

EUR - John McCracken

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 By *MNARA* Date *10/5/03*



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SS 20, UPW 01, UCF 05, AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 01, RSR 01

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O P 031520Z JUL 69
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7613
INFO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON
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CONFIDENTIAL LAGOS 6070
SUBJECT: NIGERIAN RELIEF: ONE-SHOT CROSS RIVER OPERATION
REF: LAGOS 6061

1. AT AMBASSADOR'S SUGGESTION AID DIRECTOR ADLER THIS MORNING DISCUSSED ONE-SHOT CROSS RIVER OPERATION WITH COMMISSIONER REHABILITATION OMO-BARE. LATTER INITIALLY TOOK VERY NEGATIVE STANCE SAYING HE PERSONALLY OPPOSED TO PROJECT. HIS OBJECTIONS WERE ON SECURITY GROUNDS AND HE EXPRESSED FEAR THAT PROJECT MIGHT SOMEHOW LEAD TO REBEL INFILTRATION IN CROSS RIVER AREA SIMILAR TO THAT PREVAILING NEAR NIGER RIVER IN MID-WESTERN STATE (OMO-BARE IS MID-WESTERNER).

2. ADLER PURSUED SUBJECT AND RECOUNTED FERGUSON'S EFFORTS RE CROSS RIVER OPERATION. HE POINTED OUT LOGISTIC ADVANTAGES OF WATER ROUTE AND EMPHASIZED PSYCHOLOGICAL IMPORTANCE OF PLACING ONUS FOR BLOCKING OPERATION ON REBELS. OMO-BARE STATED HE UNDERSTOOD THIS ASPECT AND TOWARD END CONVERSATION SAID HE WOULD DISCUSS MATTER WITHIN FMG TO SEE WHETHER QTE SOMETHING COULD BE DONE UNQUOTE.

① GP-3. MATHEWS

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DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSCI 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02,
SS 20, SR 01, ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 01, AID 28, UCF 05, UPW 01, RSP 01,
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P. 081620Z JUL 69
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7614
INFO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION USUN

CONFIDENTIAL LAGOS 6073

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN RELIEF

1. SOME EVIDENCE FMG FACING UP TO PRACTICAL DIFFICULTIES THEIR DECISION PLACE REHABILITATION COMMISSION IN CHARGE OF RELIEF AND SOME SIGN DIFFICULTY BETWEEN NIGERIAN RED CROSS AND REHABILITATION COMMISSION.

2. HOCKE (PROTECT SOURCE) TOLD A/DCM TODAY THAT YESTERDAY OMO-BARE CALLED CHIEF OJO, CHAIRMAN NRC AND ASKED TO SPEAK TO HIM ABOUT THE REHABILITATION COMMISSION'S NEW RESPONSIBILITY. OJO FLATLY DECLINED AND SAID HE WOULD NOT TALK WITH OMO-BARE UNTIL CHIEF JUSTICE ADEMOLA RETURNED. OMO-BARE THEN SENT HIS SECRETARY TO SEE OJO AND OJO CONSENTED MEET ON PURELY INFORMAL BASIS. AT THAT MEETING OMO-BARE LET HIS HAIR DOWN AND TOLD OJO THERE HAD BEEN A GOOD DEAL OF MISUNDERSTANDING. HE WAS, HE SAID, IN NO REPEAT NO POSITION TO TAKE OVER THE RELIEF OPERATION; HE HAD NEVER BEEN CONSULTED (PRESUMABLY THIS MEANS APPROVAL ASKED) ABOUT IMPOSITION NEW RESPONSIBILITY ON HIM; AND THERE HAD BEEN NO REPEAT NO GOVERNMENTAL

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CONSIDERATION OF THE FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS WHICH TERMINATION OF THE ICRC ROLE WOULD MEAN. OMO-BARE SAID THAT HE WAS GOING TO MAKE THIS CLEAR TO HIS COLLEAGUES AT THE FEDERAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING AND MEANWHILE, AS FAR AS HE WAS CONCERNED, THE RELIEF CENTER (NRC-ICRC) WAS STILL IN CHARGE.

3. FOLLOWING INFORMAL SESSION BETWEEN OJO AND OMO-BARE, MICHAEL OGUN (SOUTH-EASTERN STATE COMMISSIONER FOR REHABILITATION) REQUEST ICRC REP CALABAR TO SEND 1200 BAGS OF CSM BY JULY 5. THIS REQUIREMENT TRANSMITTED TO RELIEF CENTER AND OJO PRESENTED IT TO OMO-BARE SAYING AT THE SAME TIME THAT IF IT WERE HIS RESPONSIBILITY TO PASS ON REQUESTS HE WOULD RESPOND NEGATIVELY. OMO-BARE CONFIRMED DECISION WAS OJO'S AND THAT HE IN FULL AGREEMENT WITH NEGATIVE REPLY.

4. COMMENT: ABOVE BIT OF BY-PLAY REPORTED FAIRLY FULLY AS REVEALING THAT IN THE RELIEF SITUATION AS WITH IMPORT REGULATIONS, THE COMPANIES' DECREE, THE BANKING DECREE, ETC., ACTIONS AND DECISIONS OFTEN TAKEN BY FMG WITHOUT FULL THOUGHT TO THE CONSEQUENCES. NO ONE BETTER REALIZES THIS THAN NIGERIANS THEMSELVES AND USUALLY WAY IS FOUND TO COME TO TERMS WITH REALITIES WITHOUT PUBLIC CONFESSION OF INEPTNESS WHICH CHANGE IN THE OFFICIAL RULES WOULD IMPLY. THIS CAN HAPPEN IN RELIEF SITUATION AS WELL. WHAT IS NOW REQUIRED IS CONCILIATORY GESTURE BY ICRC, PREFERABLY VISIT BY NAVILLE OF A PEACE-MAKING CHARACTER. PERM SEC MIN EXTAFF TOLD AMBASSADOR TODAY (LAGOS 6061) THAT ICRC BEING INVITED THROUGH FMG AMB. SWITZERLAND TO DISCUSS FUTURE FMG-ICRC RELATIONSHIPS AND WE HOPE NAVILLE SEIZE THIS OPPORTUNITY AND WE UNDERSTAND UK

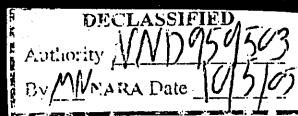
ALSO WORKING TO GET NAVILLE COME TO LAGOS. MANY MORE PUBLIC OUTBURSTS BY ICRC ALONG RECENT LINES, HOWEVER, MAY FORECLOSE THIS OPPORTUNITY WITH PROBABLE ADVERSE IMPLICATIONS FOR ANY FUTURE ROLE FOR ICRC IN AFRICA WHERE GREATEST NEED FOR SUCH ROLE WILL LIE.

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DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02,
SS 20, UPW 01, UCF 05, AIO 28, SRI 01, ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 01, RSR 01,

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FMI AMEMBASSY LAGOS:

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7608

INFO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON:

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C O N F I D E N T I A L L A G O S 6061

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN RELIEF

REF: STATE 109448 LAGOS 6-14

1. IN ABSENCE ARIKPO I SAW PERMSEC BABA GANA THIS MORNING. I OPENED BY INFORMING HIM OF DEMARCHE TO NIGERIAN CHARGE IN WASHINGTON PER REFTEL AND OF SECRETARY'S REMARKS AT PRESS CONFERENCE AS REPORTED BY REUTERS. BABA GANA MADE NO COMMENT ON SUBSTANCE OF DEMARCHE BUT REACTED VERY STRONGLY TO USG CRITICISM OF FMG ATTITUDE TOWARD AND ACTION AGAINST ICRC. HE HEATEDLY REVIEWED FMG COMPLAINTS AGAINST ICRC AND WENT ON TO BITTER RECITAL OF FAMILIAR CHARGES THAT USG AND OTHER WESTERN GOVERNMENTS TAKE EVERY OPPORTUNITY CRITICIZE FMG BUT NEVER SAY UNKIND WORD ABOUT REBELS. ON POSITIVE SIDE HE STRESSED (A) THAT ALL FMG HAD ACTUALLY DONE VIS-AVIS ICRC WAS TO ANNOUNCE THAT ITS COORDINATING ROLE FOR RELIEF IN FEDERAL TERRITORY WAS ENDED AND THAT IT COULD NO LONGER RAISE FUNDS ON BEHALF GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF NIGERIA AND (B) THAT FMG WAS INFORMING ICRC THROUGH NIGERIAN AMBASSADOR TO SWITZERLAND OF WILLINGNESS TO SIT DOWN AND DISCUSS

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FUTURE FMG ICRC RELATIONSHIPS. I HEARD HIM OUT AND THEN REMINDED HIM THAT I HAD OFTEN TOLD HIM AND MANY OTHER FMG OFFICIALS THAT FMG COULD NOT WIN BATTLE WITH ICRC WHICH ALMOST SACRED IN NORTH AMERICA AND WESTERN EUROPE. NO USG SPOKESMAN COULD FAIL TO DEFEND ICRC IN FACE FMG AND REBEL ATTACKS. I NOTED HOWEVER THAT USG WAS PRIVATELY URGING ICRC TO AVOID PUBLIC POLAMICS AND TO GET ON WITH PRACTICAL DISCUSSIONS WITH FMG. I STRONGLY URGED SAME COURSE ON FMG.

2. RE CROSS RIVER WATER ROUTE I POINTED OUT THAT FMG DECISION NOT TO USE LSM QTE AT THIS TIME UNQUOTE WHICH CONVEYED TO EMB BY EKPO ON JULY 1 (LAGOS 5992) WAS ABRUPT AND UNEXPECTED. I BRIEFLY REVIEWED HISTORY OF CROSS RIVER PROJECT BEGINNING WITH FERGUSON MARCH VISIT TO LAGOS AND EMPHASIZING INSTANCES WHEN FMG OFFICIALS ACCEPTED PROJECT IN PRINCIPLE. I REMINDED BABA GANA THAT FERGUSON HAD INTRODUCED QTE ONE SHOT UNQUOTE CONCEPT AT JUNE 3 MEETING WITH GOWON AND THAT IT WAS THIS TEST OPERATION WHICH FMG HAD APPARENTLY NEW REJECTED. I ALSO REMINDED BABA GANA OF IRRESPONSIBLE CHARGES IN NIGERIAN MEDIA FOLLOWING COMINFO PRESS CONFERENCE JUNE 21 THAT USG HAD TRIED IMPOSE CROSS RIVER PROJECT ON FMG WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE OR CONSULTATION WHICH MANY IN US AS WELL AS IN NIGERIA WOULD INEVITABLY LINK TO FMG DECISION. I OBSERVED THAT UNFORTUNATELY ALL OF THIS ADDED UP TO DIFFICULT PROBLEM AFFECTING US NIGERIAN RELATIONS.

3. I URGED THAT FMG RECONSIDER DECISION AND AGREE TO TEST VOYAGE OF LSM TO IKOT OKPORO. IF FMG WOULD PERMIT LSM TO PASS THROUGH TERRITORY UNDER IR CONTROL BUT REBELS WOULD NOT ALLOW IT ABOVE ITU, THEN ONUS FOR FAILURE OF PROJECT WOULD BE ON REBELS. ON OTHER HAND IF FMG STOOD ON ITS PRESENT DECISION POSITION WOULD BE THAT FMG HAD SAID NO TO PROJECT WHILE REBELS HAD SAID YES WITH CONDITIONS. THIS POINT MOVED BABA GANA TO COMPLAIN THAT FMG HAD HAD NO DIRECT WORD FROM FERGUSON SINCE HE LEFT LAGOS IN EARLY JUNE AND HAD TO DEPEND ON HIS PRESS STATEMENTS TO LEARN HOW HIS DEALINGS WITH REBELS WERE PROGRESSING. I COMMENTED THAT I HAD JULY 1 RECEIVED TEXT LETTER FROM FERGUSON TO ARIKO WHICH I WAS HOLDING IN VIEW FMG DECISION AGAINST CROSS RIVER PROJECT.

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4. BABA GANA SAID THAT HEI WOULD REPORT MY APPROACH AND PROPOSE THAT CROSS RIVER TEST OPERATION BE AGAIN REVIEWED WITHIN FMG. HEI INDICATED CONSIDERABLE DOUBT THAT DECISION WOULD BE CHANGED, CITING DIFFICULTY OF ENSURING SAFE CONDUIT OF LSM ON RIVER RISK THAT RÉBELS WOULD EXPLOIT OPERATION MILITARILY AND PROBLEMS FOR FMG ARISING FROM WIDESPREAD POPULAR OPPOSITION TO OPERATION AMONG PEOPLE OF SOUTH EASTERN STATE. I URGED THAT IT SHOULD BE POSSIBLE TO OVERCOME THESE OBSTACLES FOR QTE ONE-SHOT UNQUOTE TEST VOYAGE. IF NOT I SAID THAT FMG SHOULD BE ABLE TO GIVE BETTER EXPLANATION ITS POSITION THAN THAT RECEIVED FROM EKPO.

5. IN VIEW DEMARCHE IN WASHINGTON JULY 2 I DID NOT THIS MORNING REQUEST APPOINTMENT WITH GOWON. IT WILL BE BETTER FOR ME TO SEE HIM AFTER FMG HAS HAD OPPORTUNITY MULL OVER DEMARCHE.

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